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10-minute NEWS REPORT

News of the church in the world.

September 2014

keeping the church connected

President Stephen M. Veazey looks forward to interacting with you October 5. Get your group together and join with the worldwide church through www.CofChrist.org for the President's Address webcast, followed by a live question-and-answer session.

President Veazey said, "We will focus on the joy of generosity as a spiritual practice that draws one closer to God and others. I will also provide an official interpretation of the church's teaching and practice of tithing to support Christ's mission throughout the world."

To prepare:

- Please prayerfully reflect on paragraphs 7–9 of the words of counsel at www.CofChrist.org/presidency/041413wordsofcounsel.
- Send your questions early or during the live event.
- E-mail: AskSteveVeazey@CofChrist.org
- Social media: #AskSteveVeazey
- Use the Worship Suggestions posted at www.CofChrist.org/broadcast/upcoming.asp to plan your gathering.

Test the web connection where you plan to watch the event during one of the following times: 1:00 p.m. September 25–10:00 p.m. (CDT) September 26, or 1:00 p.m. October 3–10:00 p.m. (CDT) October 4.

If you have trouble connecting to the test:

- Verify that your Internet connection is functioning.
- Make sure you are testing during one of the designated test periods: 1:00 p.m. September 25–10:00 p.m. (CDT) September 26, or 1:00 p.m. October 3–10:00 p.m. (CDT) October 4.
- Go through the Webcast Readiness Test linked at www.CofChrist.org/broadcast/upcoming.asp.
- If you have verified your connection and the time and still can't connect, please contact your Internet service provider.

Mark your calendar for the rest of the series of addresses on the words of counsel: April 12 and October 4, 2015; and April 3, 2016.

All addresses will be webcast live in English, French, and Spanish. Details about how to receive a webcast are at www.CofChrist.org/broadcast/webcast_help.asp.

Register for Peace Colloquy by September 24 to save! Come explore the theme, Poverty: God Weeps, October 24–26 at the Temple. Start with the pre-event Prayer Retreat, and come to the opening Community of Christ International Peace Award ceremony at 7:30 p.m. (CDT) Friday, honoring Bread for the World.

During the weekend, experience a poverty simulation and presentations from partner organizations that focus on alleviating global poverty. Take part in a film and hymn festival that will bring hope and inspiration.

Together we will learn about root causes of poverty, poverty traps, and how to combine service, advocacy, and human development to Abolish Poverty, End Suffering. Online and phone-in registration opens August 1 at www.CofChrist.org/peacecolloquy and ext. 3077.

Watch the Community of Christ International Peace Award ceremony live on www.CofChrist.org in English, French, or Spanish at 7:30 p.m. (CDT) October 24 or join us at the Temple in Independence,

Missouri. We will honor Bread for the World's 40 years of advocacy on behalf of hungry people around the world. Bread for the World's president, David Beckmann, will give an address.

Learn more in a two-part interview with Beckmann in August and September Heralds. To subscribe to the Herald, visit www.HeraldHouse.org or contact subscriptions@HeraldHouse.org or 1-800-767-8181.

Reunion 2014 Directors: Please take a few moments to complete the 2014 Reunion Resources Survey at www.CofChrist.org/reunion. In addition, please ask any co-directors, education and worship coordinators, and other staff who helped with planning or use of resources. All feedback is valuable as we make plans for Reunion 2015 Resources.

The African American Ministries Retreat will run April 17–19, 2015, at the Joseph Smith Historic Site in Nauvoo, Illinois. For more information, contact Gwendolyn Hawks-Blue (gwendolynblue@hotmail.com) or Carol Walden (thunder_cw@yahoo.com).

A new series on ministry and priesthood begins in the September Herald with "Ministry of the Disciple," by Janné Grover, Disciple Formation Ministries. The ministry of the disciple makes Christ's mission and God's vision of shalom become reality, encompassing the many ways we live and share the gospel.

To subscribe to the Herald, contact David or Arline.

Register now for MEADS (Ministerial Education and Discipleship Studies): February 2–6, 2015. Classes to be offered are Mission and Evangelism with Ron Harmon and Introduction to Spirituality with Katie Harmon-McLaughlin. Cost is \$88 per class, or \$175 for two classes.

Class times will be announced later. For more information visit www.CofChrist.org/meads/schedule.asp. Register by January 16, 2015, by contacting Katy Toese: ktoese@CofChrist.org or ext. 2433.

As a follow-up to this year's Health & Spirituality Workshop on Self-renewal During Crisis, Community of Christ Health Ministries Association draws your attention to the health brief entitled Dare to Self-Care. Recognizing the need for change and making the change requires courage and resolve. Follow the 10 Commandments for Self-care in this health brief to gain the strength you need to develop harmony in your life.

Share it with someone you care about. Preach or teach it in your congregation. Make it part of your daily life. All health briefs by HMA can be found under Resources at www.chm.hmaCofChrist.org.

World Hunger Emphasis Day is Sunday, September 7. Please remind the person bringing offertory thoughts to remember hunger and poverty needs in the local community and nations around the world.

Contributions to Abolish Poverty, End Suffering provide funds for ministries that offer hope and promise to people experiencing poverty and hunger. Visit www.CofChrist.org/hunger for worship resources, including two downloadable videos: a new hunger meditation video (also available on DVD), and a video that highlights two projects that are alleviating poverty. Hunger No More packets and a recently-published World Hunger brochure are also great to use.

The World Hunger-Tangible Love Team has a new meditation video. In just over three minutes, you see the faces and places of sisters and brothers whose lives have been transformed by World Hunger and Tangible Love ministries. The video was produced by team member Wayne Rowe set to a special arrangement of "Ar Hyd Y Nos" by Tim Rowlands.

Take a deep breath, relax, and experience a bit of how your giving to Abolish Poverty, End Suffering is changing lives around the world. Visit www.CofChrist.org/hunger/resources/emphasis_sundays.asp to watch the mediation video online at, share it on social media, and show it as people are gathering for worship, during the Disciples' Generous Response, or another appropriate time.

Heritage Day is right around the corner—September 21. What will your congregation do for the annual Community of Christ Heritage Day service Sunday, September 21? Each year, your friends at the Community of Christ Historic Sites Foundation share a unique Heritage Day service for congregations to sample.

The 2014 Heritage Day service complements reunion and Peace Colloquy themes as we focus on the Mission Initiative of Abolish Poverty, End Suffering. Check out the worship service along with plenty of other

creative ideas (from hymn festivals and worship service outlines to sermons and testimonies) on the Foundation's website: www.HistoricSitesFoundation.org. Make Heritage Day an opportunity to celebrate and share your congregation's unique story.

How did your last difficult conversation go? Come to the Temple September 23 and 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for Interpersonal Peacebuilding training with Sandee Gamet, Peacebuilding Ministries. Explore who you are in the midst of differences. Learn communication skills that help deal with differences. Discover a model for cooperative decision-making through activities, discussion, and by practicing skills. Registration is \$25. Register by September 15 to ensure your space. Contact Sandee at ext. 2353 or sgamet@CofChrist.org.

We need photos of your congregation's meeting place! Thank you to the many who have already responded. We are building the new find-a-congregation directory that will be part of a redesigned Community of Christ website (coming soon). The directory will include a photo of your location/church building along with the congregation information. Submissions need to be sharp, high-resolution photos, framed as a landscape (horizontal) with sky and ground showing. This will allow for any necessary cropping.

E-mail photos to webteam@CofChrist.net along with your congregation's name, address, mission center, and pastor name(s).

Upcoming Events

September 7: World Hunger Emphasis Sunday

September 9–12, 15: Quorum meetings

September 16–19: World Church Leadership Council

September 21: Heritage Day

October 5: President's Address webcast

October 6–15: Community of Christ Historic Sites bus tour

October 19: Children's Sabbath

October 24: Community of Christ International Peace Award webcast

October 24–26: Peace Colloquy

October 27–30: Leaders Meeting

November 20: Standing High Council

November 27–28: International Headquarters offices closed—Thanksgiving (USA)

November 30: First Sunday of Advent

Daily Prayer for Peace

A brief worship service is held daily at 1:00 p.m. central time at the Temple. Join us in prayer from wherever you are. For details and the text of each day's prayer, visit www.CofChrist.org/prayerpeace/.

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Contribution Update

The information provided above is provided and published by Community of Christ International Headquarters.

If you have questions, or would like to become involved, please contact the pastoral team at pastor@vasaint.org

Congregational mailing address is:

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